Liberalisation of LNG Policy

1342. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to liberalise the national NG policy including pricing and imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the demand of LNG in various fields such as power and fertilizer have increased during the past few years; and

(d) if so, to what extent liberalisation of national LNG policy is going to help fertilizer and power sectors in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) and (b) The import of Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) has been placed under Open General Licence (OGL) with permission for 100% Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The companies are free to import and market LNG at market determined prices.

(c) As against the current allocation of 120 million Metric Standard Cubic Meters per Day (MMSCMD) of natural gas, the current supply is about 65 MMSCMD. As per the Hydrocarbon Vision 2025 the demand of natural gas would go upto 231 MMSCMD in 2006-07, including in power and fertilizer sectors. To bridge the large gap between demand and supply of natural gas, one of the options is to import LNG.

(d) Liberalisation of LNG would attract more investment in LNG projects reducing the large gap in demand and supply of gas for various sectors including fertilizer and power sectors.

Exploration of petroleum products in Rajasthan

†1343. DR. PRABHA THAKUR:
DR. ABRAR AHMED:
DR. A.K. PATEL:
SHRI LALIT SURI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large quantity of petroleum products

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

have been explored in Rajasthan and to what extent our dependence on foreign countries would come down;

(b) the total consumption in the country at present and the proportion of import and domestic production thereof out of it; and

(c) to what extent the production of petroleum products has increased during the one year in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The Operator, M/s. Cairn Energy India (Pvt.) Ltd., has made discoveries at prospect "H" and prospect "E" in the Rajasthan block RJ-ON-90/1. the initial inplace reserves estimated by the Operator in these prospects are about 35 million Metric Tonnes (MMT). In the normal course, discoveries are appraised and a techno-economic assessment carried out to determine the commerciality of a discovery. This is followed by formulation of the development plan, including oil/gas production profile. Any reduction in imports would depend upon the actual production from the block.

(b) the Consumption of petroleum products during the year 2002-03 is estimated at about 103.289 MMT. the crude oil processing requirement of the country for the year 2002-03 is estimated to be 110.561 MMT and the extent of indigenous dry crude oil available for processing is 26.5%.

(c) The production of petroleum products is estimated to increase by 4.343 MMT during the current year over last year actual (2001-02).

Setting up of electronic libraries

†1344. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:
SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up electronic library network in villages to provide reading resources without much expenditure on books;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.